

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 12707 301402Z

43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

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R 301204Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6709

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THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT ACTION BANGKOK 30 JUN 1975 IS REPEATED
FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CHIANG MAI 0158

E.O.11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, TH

SUBJECT CHIANG MAI BY-ELECTION--DEMOCRAT WINS

1. DEMOCRAT CANDIDATE INSOM CHIASAWONG YESTERDAY WON CHIANG MAI DISTRICT ONE'S BY-ELECTION TO REPLACE DECEASED MP THONGDI ISSARACHIWIN. INSOM RECEIVED 38,639 VOTES FOLLOWED BY KANOK RATANAI (THHAI NATION) WITH 20,176 AND LERT CHINAWAT (SOCIAL NATIONALISTYZ WITH 19,012. NEXT CAME NIKOM DAMRONGKITKASET (AGRICULTURE FORCE) WITH 15,233 AND BUNSANONG BUNYOTHAYAN (SPT) WITH 9,128. VOTER TURNOUT WAS POOR BUT COMPARABLE TO JAN. 26 ELECTION; PRESENT ESTIMATES ARE THAT ONLY ABOUT 42 PERCENT PARTICIPATED. THERE WERE NO IRREGULARITIES OR INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE, ALTHOUGH A STUXNNT DJOM RAMKAMHAENG UNIV WAS ARRESTED ON CHARGE OF ILLEGALLY CARRYING .38 PISTOL.

2. THONGDI, WHO WAS DEMOCRAT IN NAME ONLY, HAS BEEN RE-
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 12707 301402Z

PLACED BY ONE WHO IS EXPECTED TO BE MUCH MORE FAITHFUL TO

PARTY'S PARLIAMENTARY MANEUVERS AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED,
PARTY GAVE INSOM GOOD PUBLIC SUPPORT BY SENDING BIG NAMES
AND GOOD SPEAKERS (INSOM, DESPITE PARTY TUTORING, IS KNOWN
AS A VERY POOR PUBLIC SPEAKER) FROM BANGKOK. WE HAVE
ALSO HEARD THAT ALL DEMOCRAT MP'S WERE ASKED TO CON-
TRIBUTE 3000 BAHT EACH FOR INSOM'S CAMPAIGN. COMBINED
VOTES OF KANOK AND LERT WOULD, HOWEVER, HAVE BEATEN
INSOM WHICH SHOULD GIVE GOVERNMENT COALITION SOME PAUSE
TO CONSIDER PROPRIETY OF BACKING TWO HORSES.

HARBIN

UNQUOTE

WHITEHOUSE

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